

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1159

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DEPT PASS TO NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC
ADMINISTRATION FOR STEVEN N. ANASTASION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, JA, US

SUBJECT: MARINE RESOURCES AND ENGINEERING COORDINATION COMMITTEE
(MEECC), US/JAPAN COOPERATIVE PROGRAM IN NATURAL RESOURCES
(UJNR)

REF: S.N. ANASTASION'S LETTER TO J.L. BLOOM, 6/9/76

1. UPON RECEIPT OF REFLETTER, EMBASSY SENT LETTER TO
HIROYUKI OSAWA JUNE 25 REQUESTING HIS VIEWS ON US SUGGESTION RE
NEXT JOINT MEETING OF MRECC AND STATUS OF MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL
OBSERVATION AND FORECASTING PANEL (MEOF).

2. ON JULY 7, THERE WERE CHANGES IN STAFF AT STA, AND OSAWA
WAS REPLACED BY SHIGEMICHI SONOYAMA AS DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF
RESEARCH COORDINATION BUREAU, WHO NOW IS EX-OFFICIO
CO-CHAIRMAN OF MRECC.

3. ON JULY 9, SONOYAMA INFORMED SCICOUNS OF HIS NEW
APPOINTMENTS AS DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF RESEARCH COORDINATION
BUREAU AND AS JAPANESE CHAIRMAN OF MRECC. IN HIS LETTER,
HE STATED QUOTE I AGREE TO YOUR PROPOSAL ON THE TIME AND
PLACE OF THE SIXTH JOINT MEETING OF MRECC; I AM AFRAID,
HOWEVER, THAT ONLY ONE PANEL, NAMELY THE MARINE GEOLOGY PANEL,
HAS ADEQUATE POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING A CONCURRENT JOINT MEETING;
MR. ATSUSHI YAMAMOTO HAS SUCCEEDED DR. KENJI DOI AS CHAIRMAN
OF MEOF SINCE APRIL 1, 1976; THE JAPANESE SIDE OF MEOF RESPONDED
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RECENTLY TO THE LETTER FROM DR. BAER. A COPY OF THE REPLYING

LETTER IS ENCLOSED IN THIS LETTER; I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU
TO GIVE MY BEST REGARDS TO DR. S.N. ANATASION UNQUOTE.

4. NEW CO-CHAIRMAN OF MEOF, ATSUSHI YAMAMOTO, WHO IS DIRECTOR
OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT, JAPAN METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY, IN HIS
LETTER TO DR. LEDOLPH BAER, DATED JUNE 29, 1976, EXPRESSED
APOLOGY FOR NOT HAVING ANSWERED BAER'S LETTER OF MARCH 22,
1976. YAMAMOTO THEN WROTE THAT POSSIBILITY OF ONE JAPANESE
PANEL MEMBER BEING SENT TO JOINT OCEANOGRAPHIC ASSEMBLY IN
EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND, IN SEPTEMBER IS QUOTE QUITE PESSIMISTIC
UNQUOTE. HE EXPRESSED HOPES THAT JAPANESE AND AMERICAN
PANELISTS WILL BE ABLE TO HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE IN THE NEAR
FUTURE TO GET TOGETHER AND DISCUSS DEVELOPING A REAL
COOPERATIVE PROGRAM ON KUROSHIO REGION, IN WHICH BOTH SIDES
ARE STILL SO MUCH INTERESTED. FINALLY, HE ASKED BAER TO SEND
HIM ICMREP REPORT SOON BECAUSE THIS REPORT HAD BEEN NEITHER
ENCLOSED IN BAER'S LETTER OF OCTOBER 21, 1975 NOR SENT TO
THE JAPANESE SIDE UNDER SEPARATE COVER.

5 EMBASSY REGRETS THAT APPARENT MISUNDERSTANDING HAS ARISEN
AMONG U.S. PANEL CHAIRMEN OF MRECC REGARDING FUNCTIONS OF
ONR AND NSF OFFICES IN TOKYO (POINT RAISED IN RE LETTER). NEITHER
OFFICE PERFORMS TECHNICAL REPORTING IN OCEANOGRAPHIC FIELD AT
PRESENT, ALTHOUGH BOTH ONR AND NSF SPONSOR OCCASIONAL VISITS
TO JAPAN OF SCIENTISTS IN THIS FIELD. NSF, OF COURSE, IS
INVOLVED WITH JAPAN IN INTERNATIONAL PHASE OF DEEP DRILLING
PROJECT (GLOMAR CHALLENGER), BUT REPORTS DO NOT FLOW THROUGH NSF
TOKYO OFFICE FROM JAPANESE PARTICIPANTS. EMBASSY SCIENCE
COUNSELOR REPORTS TO STATE DEP AND OTHER INTERESTED FEDERAL
AGENCIES ON OCEANOGRAPHIC DEVELOPMENTS IN JAPAN AND ACTS AS
LOCAL U.S. COORDINATOR FOR ALL UJNR ACTIVITIES. HE WOULD
BE HAPPY TO OBTAIN TECHNICAL INFO ON ANY SPECIFIC SUBJECT UPON
REQUEST.
SHOESMITH

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